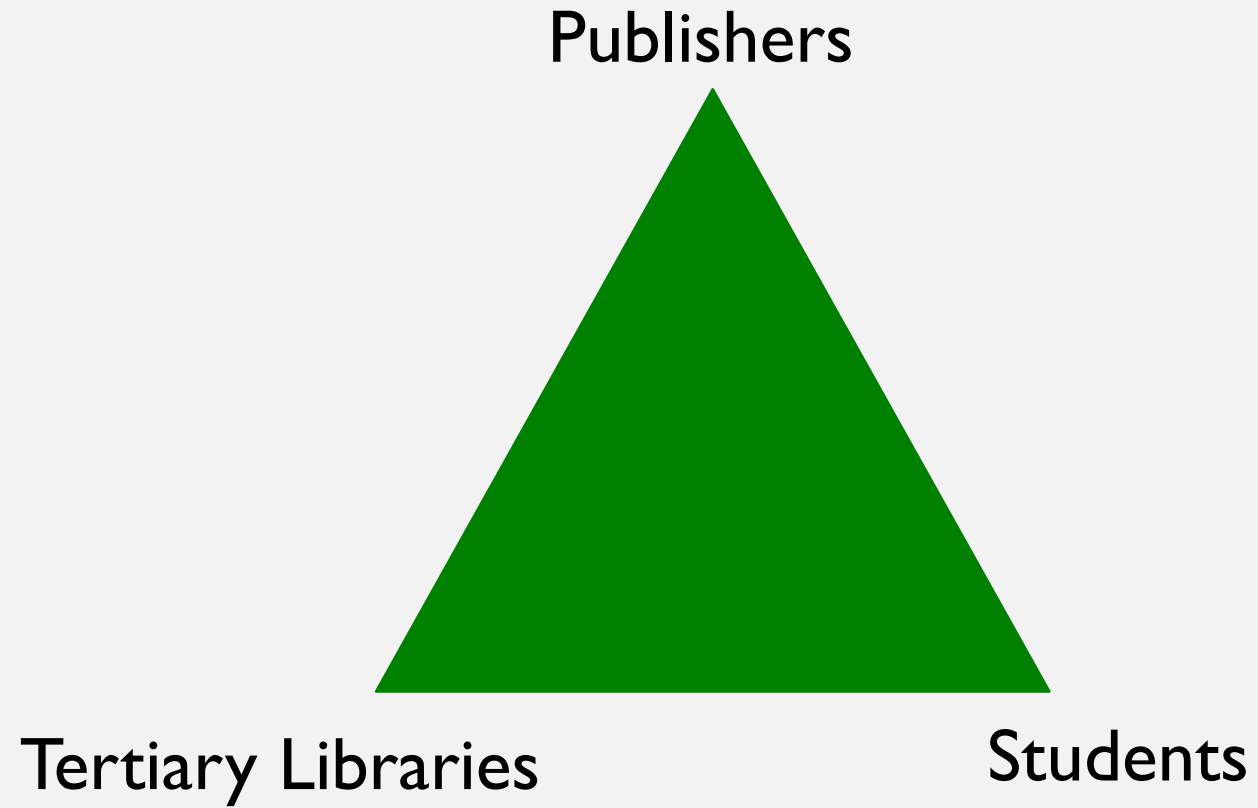




# Textbooks: The future is open, but do we know it?

Fiona Tyson – Manager, Macmillan Brown Library  
Sara Roberts – Manager, Teaching & Learning  
Lisa Davies – Kaitakawaenga Ako

# THE TEXTBOOK MARKET



# STUDENT EXPERIENCE

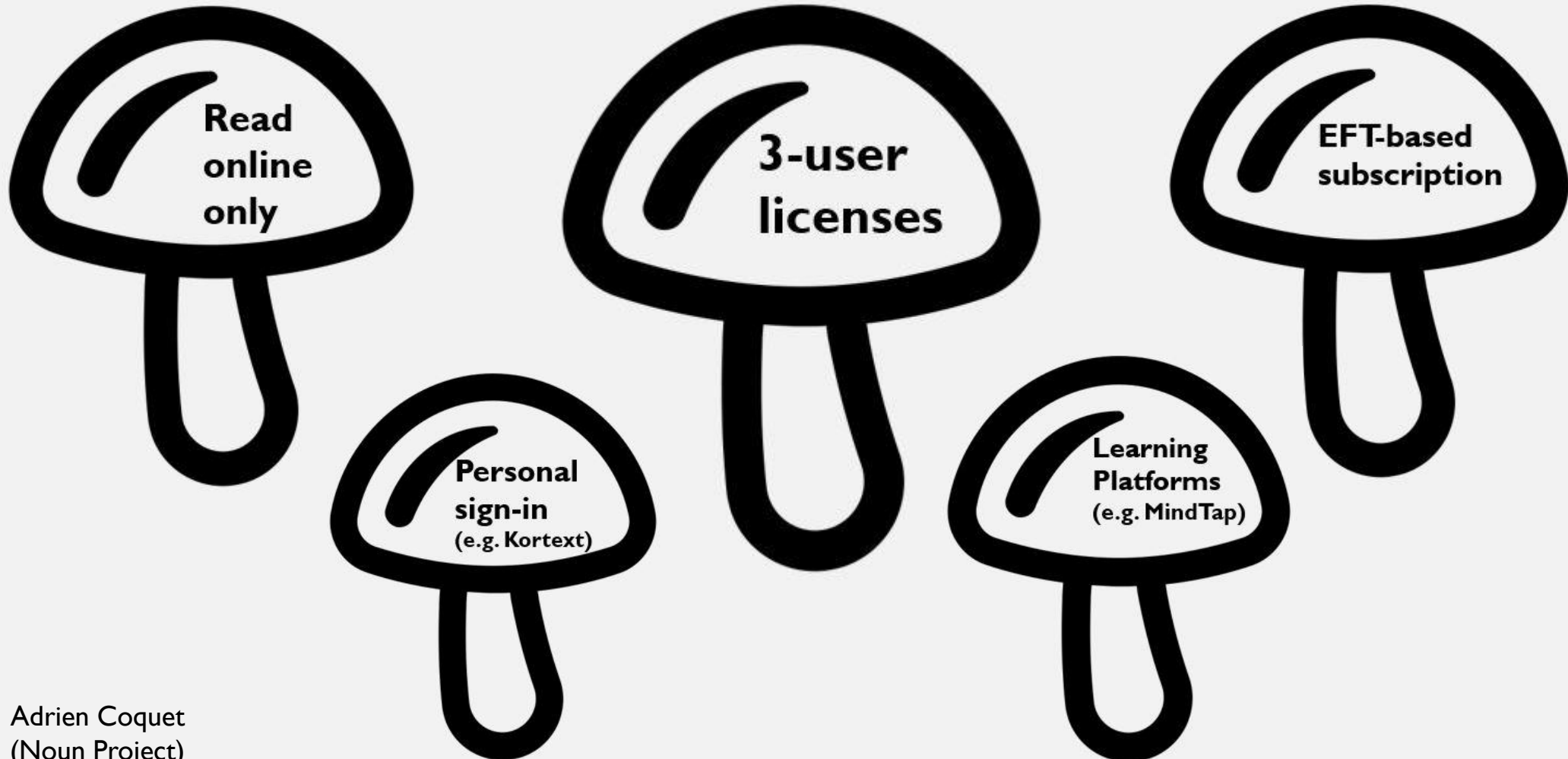
On average, 25% of students purchase the textbook (UBS bookshop).

77% of students report relying on library resources when they do not have the textbook (Stein et al., 2017).

Students in both the 2017 and 2020 studies report inconvenience of library access and/or print books.

40% of students reported lack of textbooks definitely or probably had negative impact on academic performance (Brown et al., 2020).

# TEXTBOOK PUBLISHING LANDSCAPE



## EXAMPLES

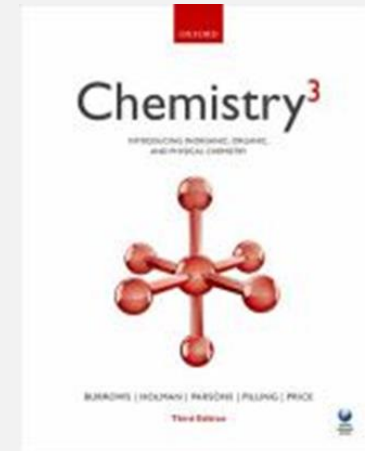
### ***Burrows, Finn & Todd on the Law of Contract in NZ (2018) (6<sup>th</sup> ed.)***

- **\$10000 p.a.** for **unlimited access license**
- Not available for individual resale



### ***Chemistry3 (2017; 3rd ed.) by Burrows et al.***

- **\$720** for a **3-user** license for libraries for **14 months** via VitalSource
- VitalSource e-book rental for students: **\$90.05 (1 year)** or **\$120.07 (4 year)**

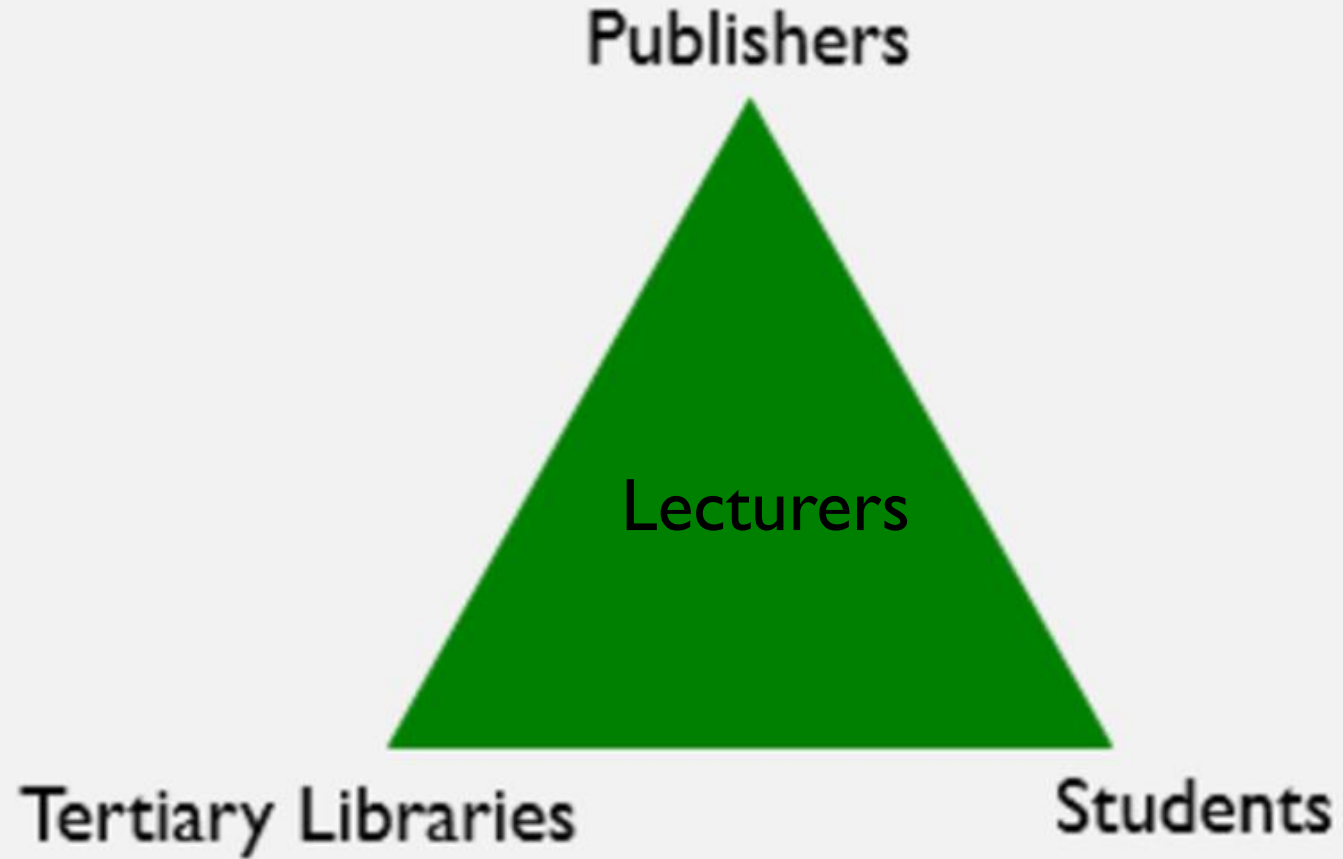


# **A PERFECT STORM CALLED COVID**

**64 out of 191  
prescribed textbooks  
in one college not  
available as e-books  
to libraries**

**Some textbooks  
were not available  
for purchase to  
students outside of  
NZ**

# THE TEXTBOOK MARKET

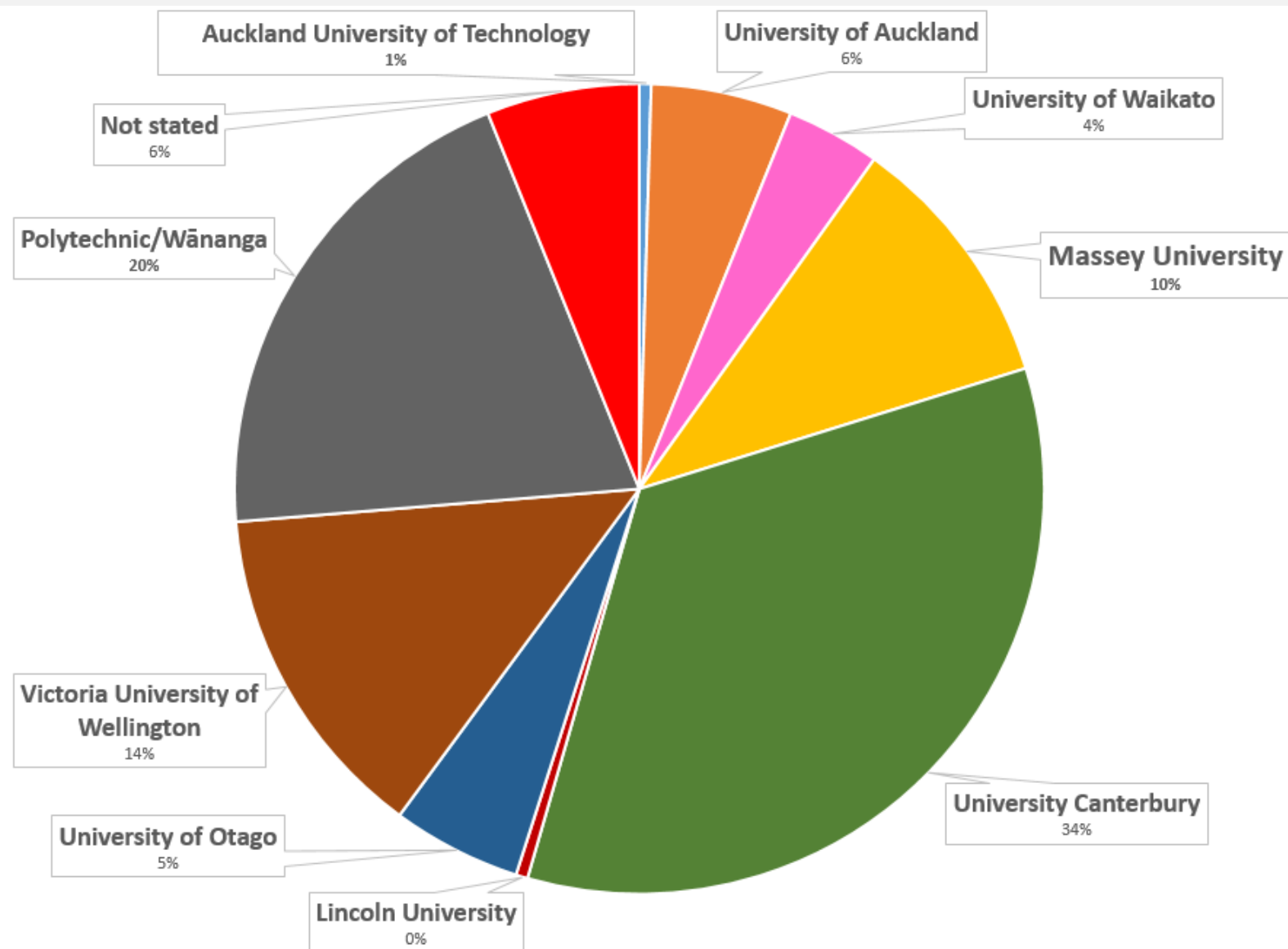


## PROJECT GROUP

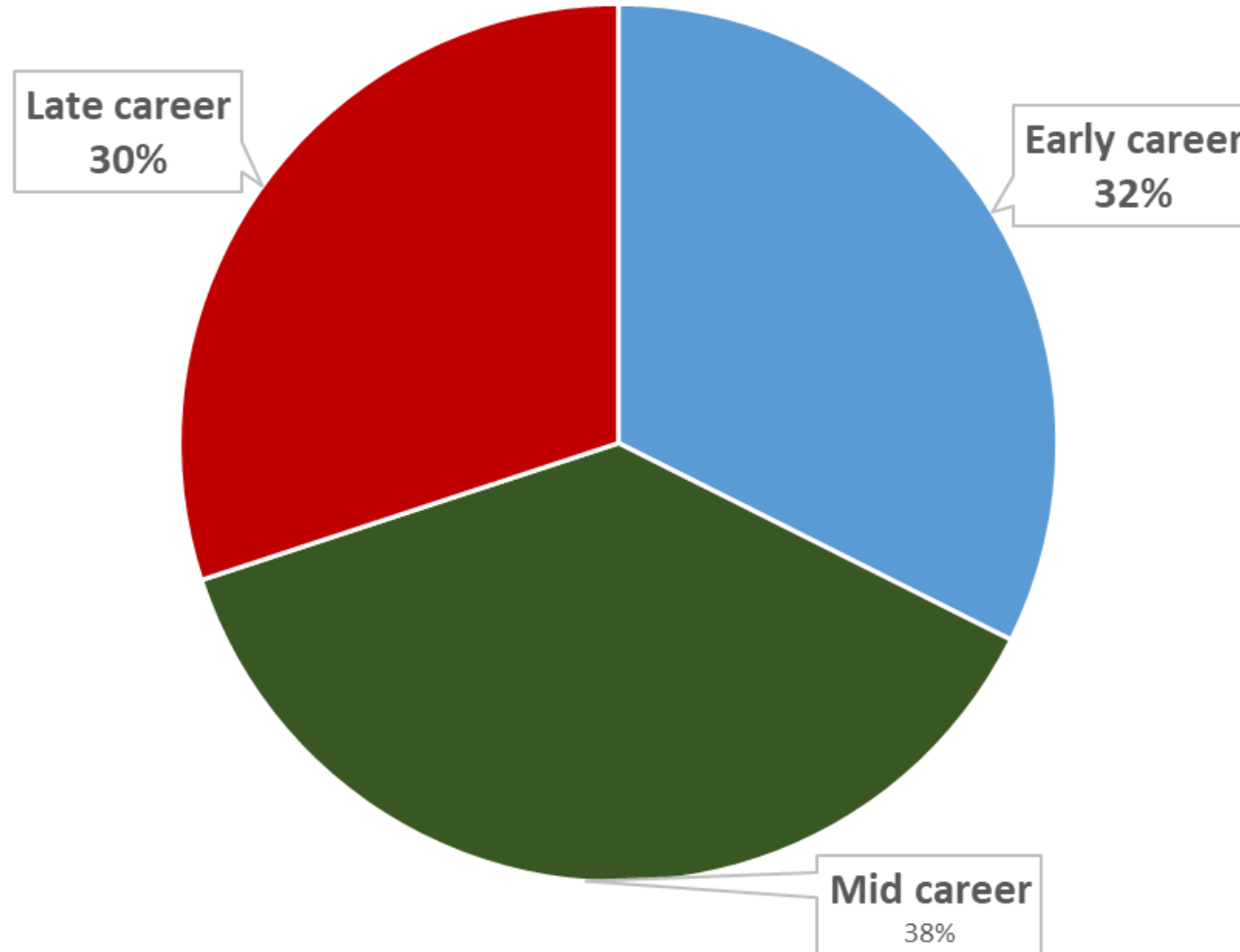
- Fiona Tyson
- Sara Roberts
- Lisa Davies
- Associate Professor Cheryl Brown at University of Canterbury
- Richard White, Copyright Manager at University of Otago
- Zhanni Luo (Research Assistant)



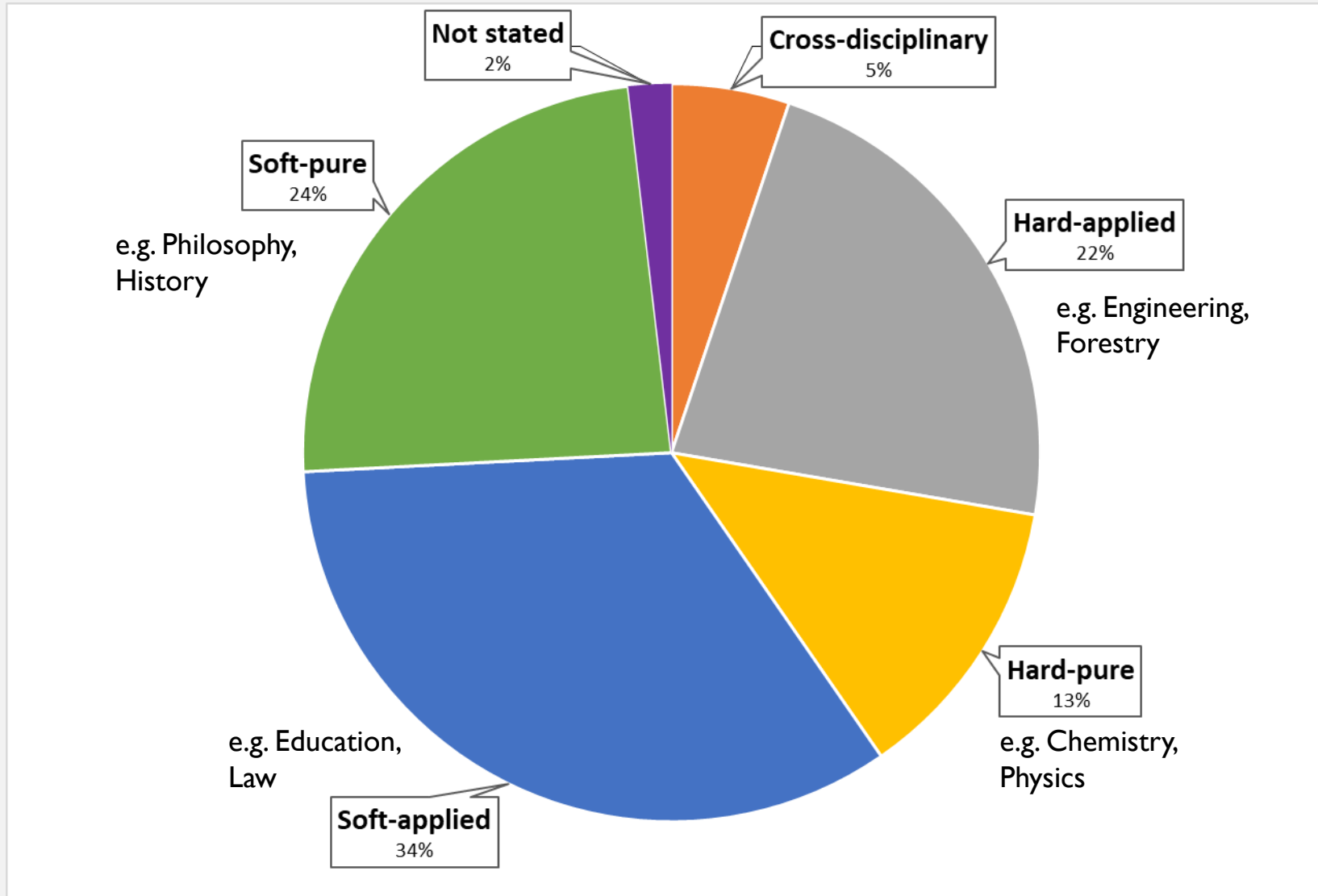
# SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS



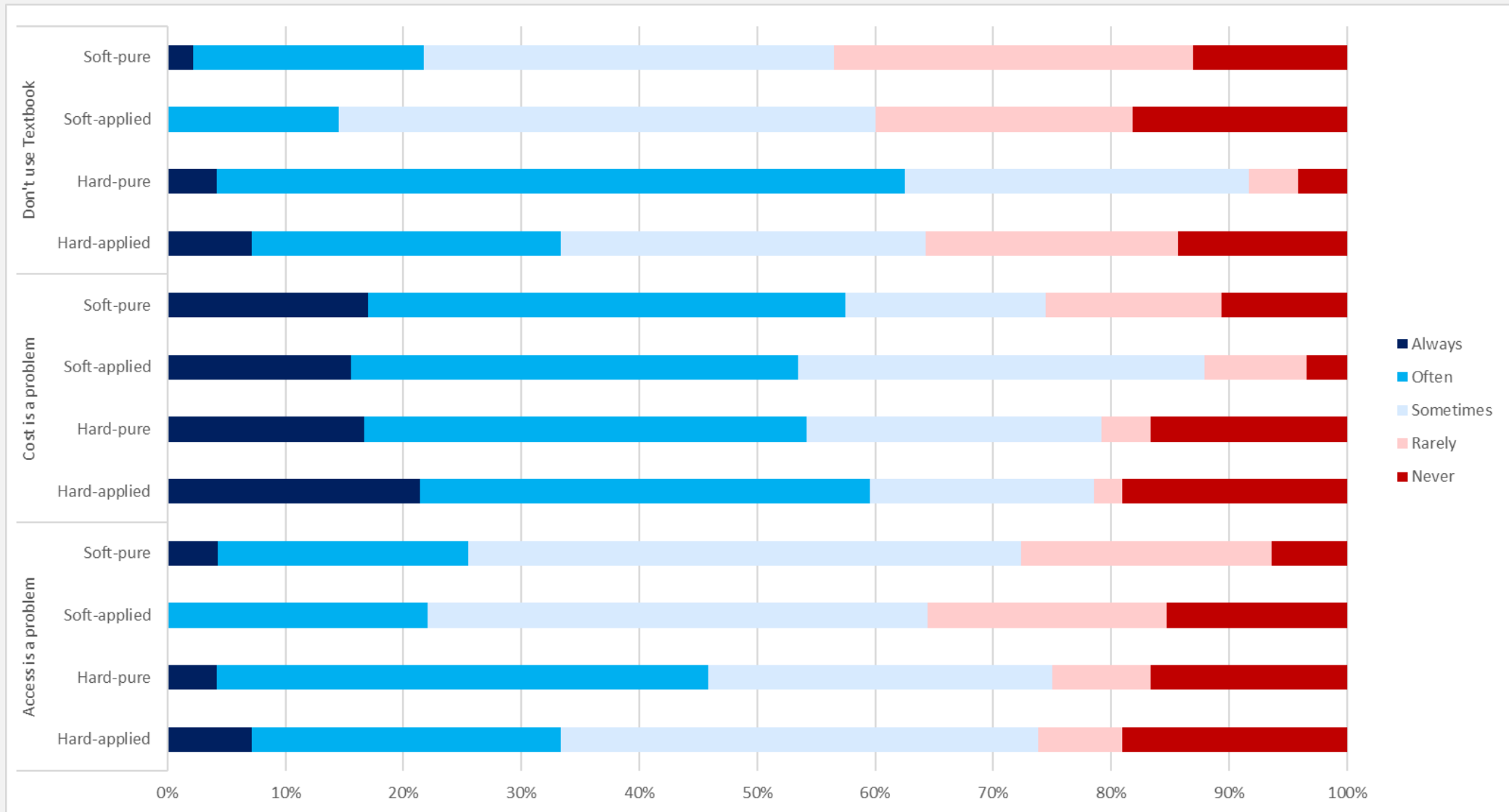
# SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS



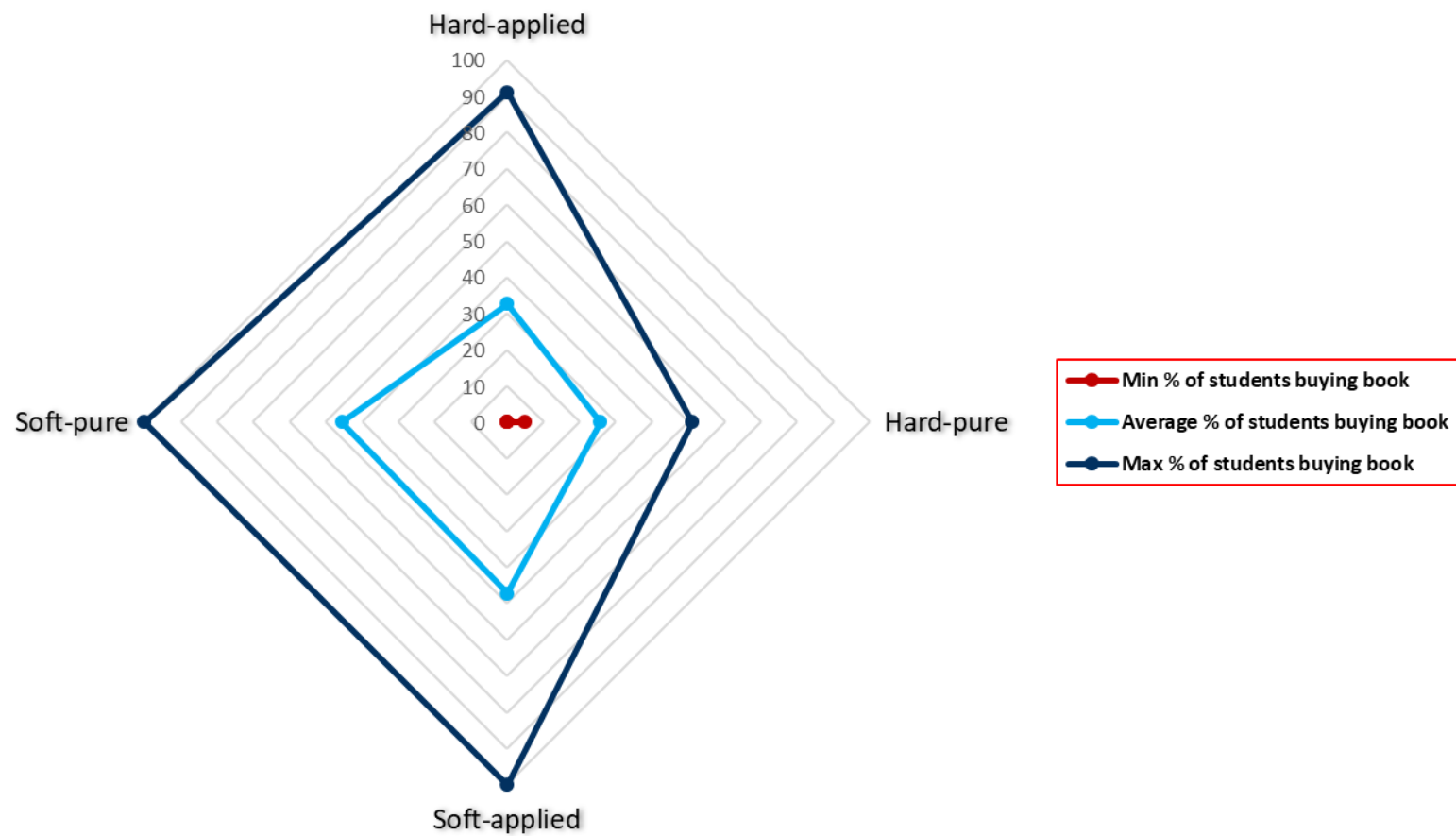
# SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS



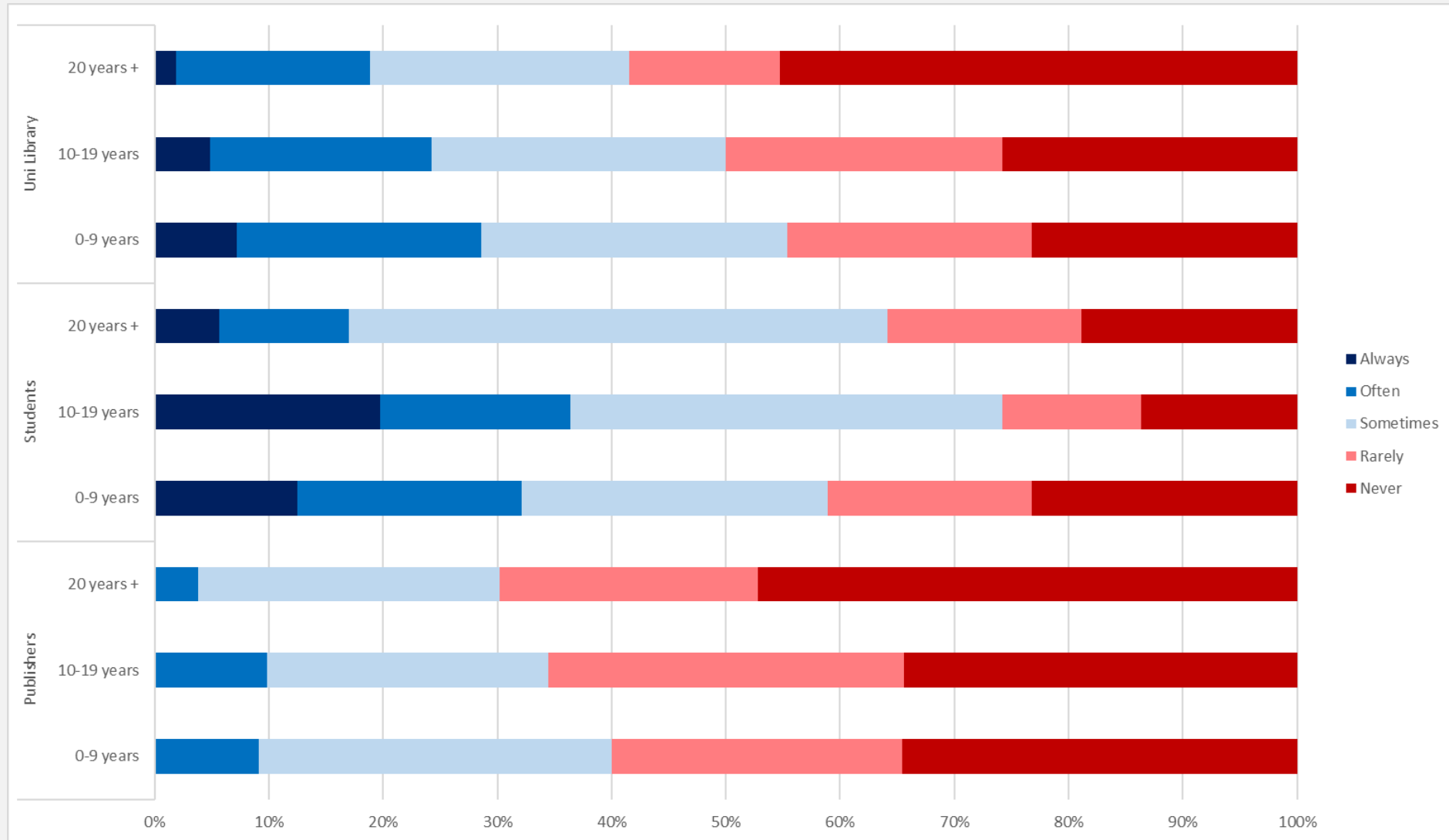
# STUDENT PERSPECTIVES (ACCORDING TO ACADEMICS)



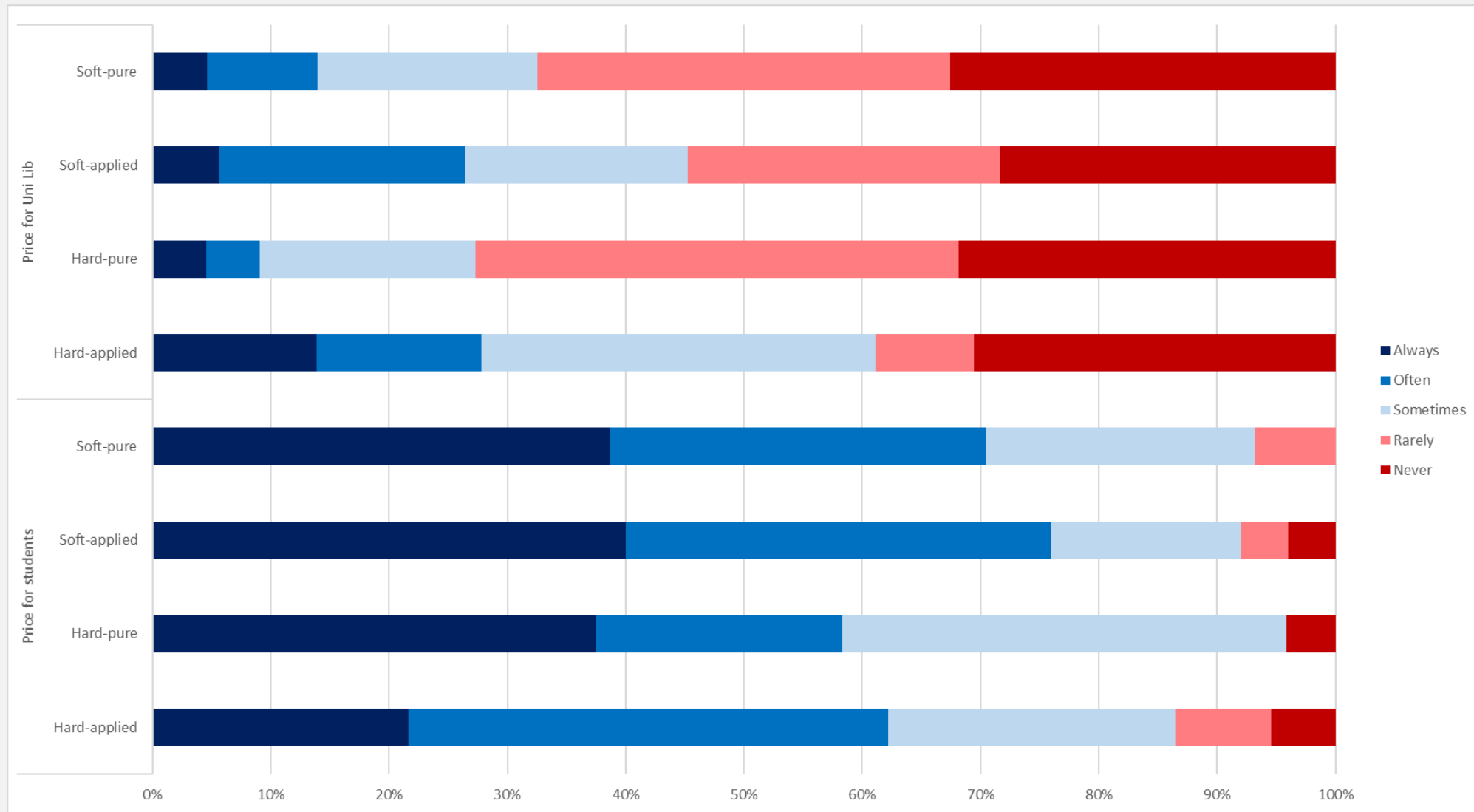
# HOW MANY STUDENTS BUY THE PRESCRIBED TEXTBOOKS?



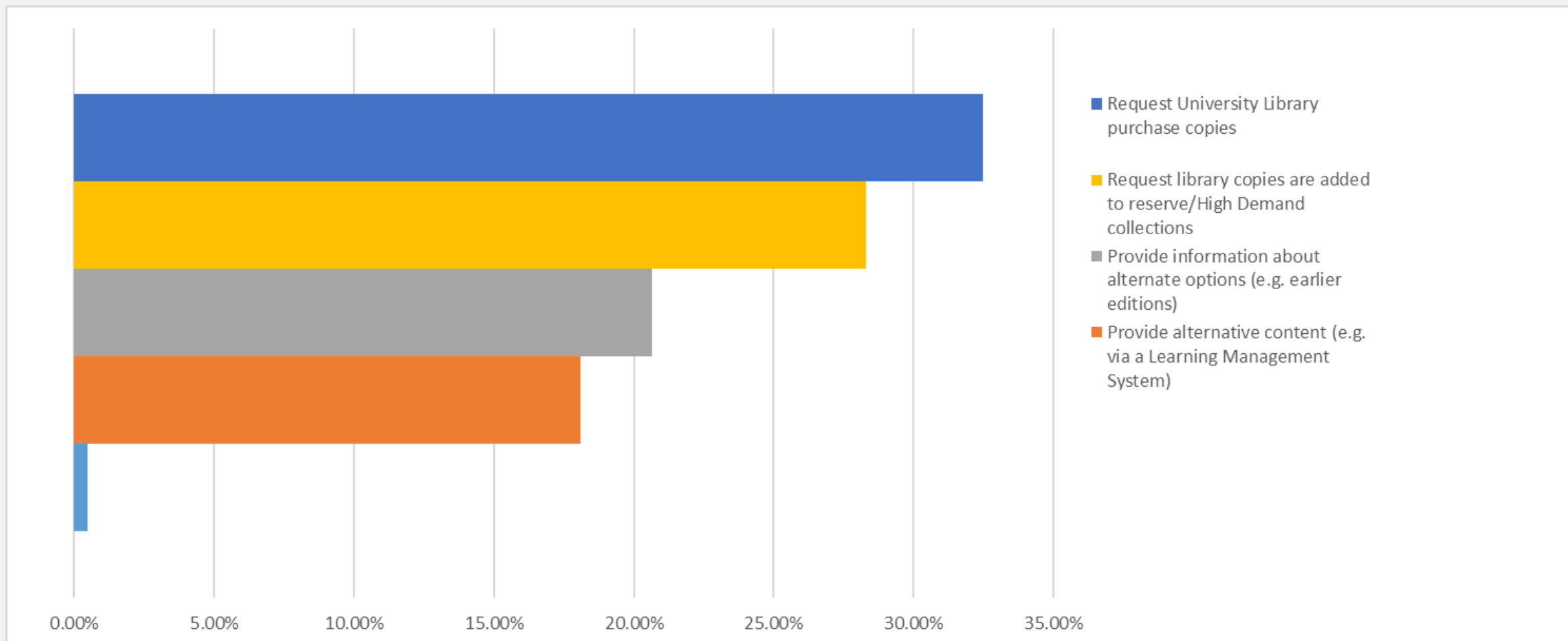
# TEXTBOOK SELECTION: INFLUENCES



# TEXTBOOK SELECTION: PRICE FACTOR

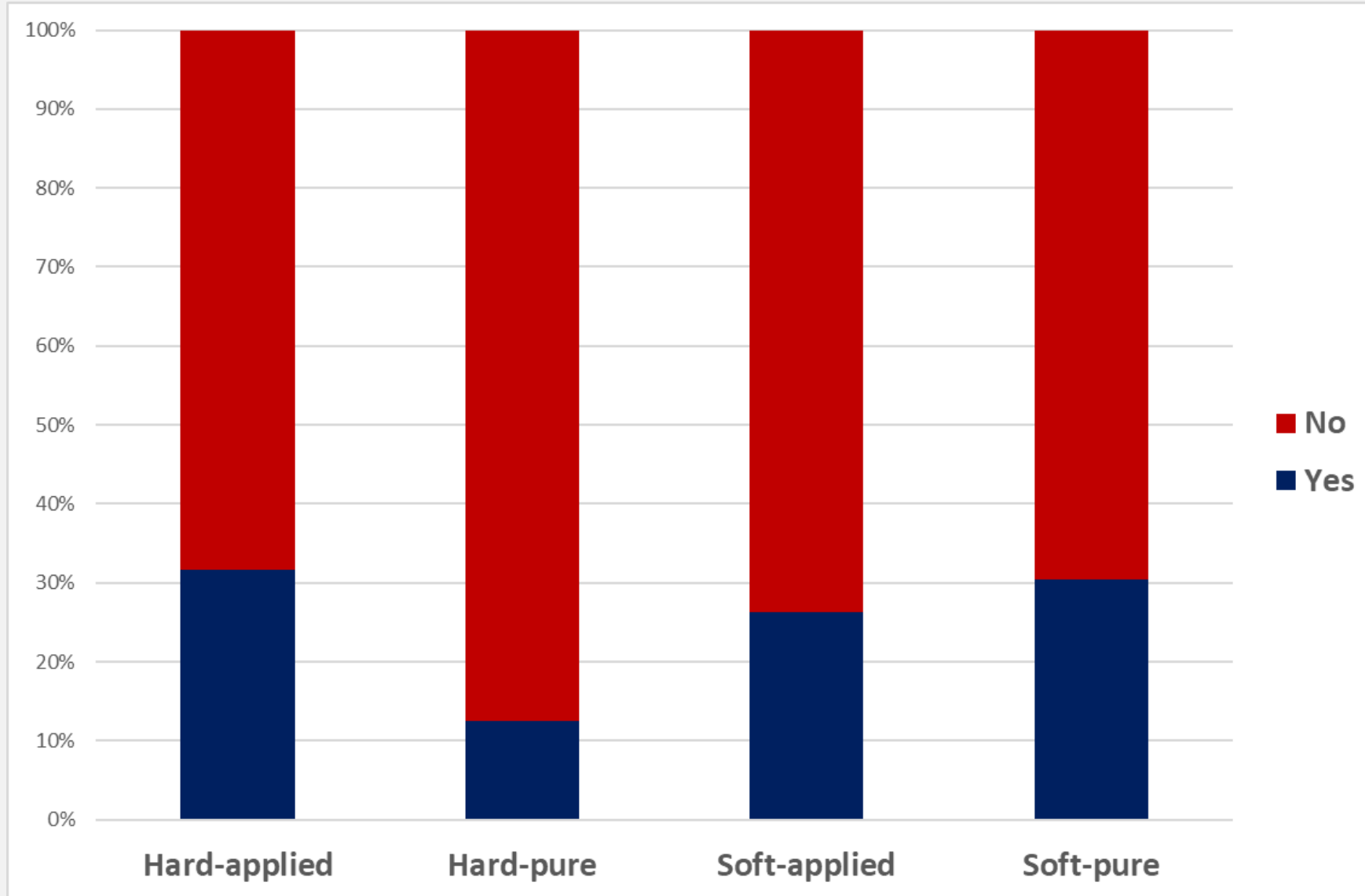


# TEXTBOOK ALTERNATIVES

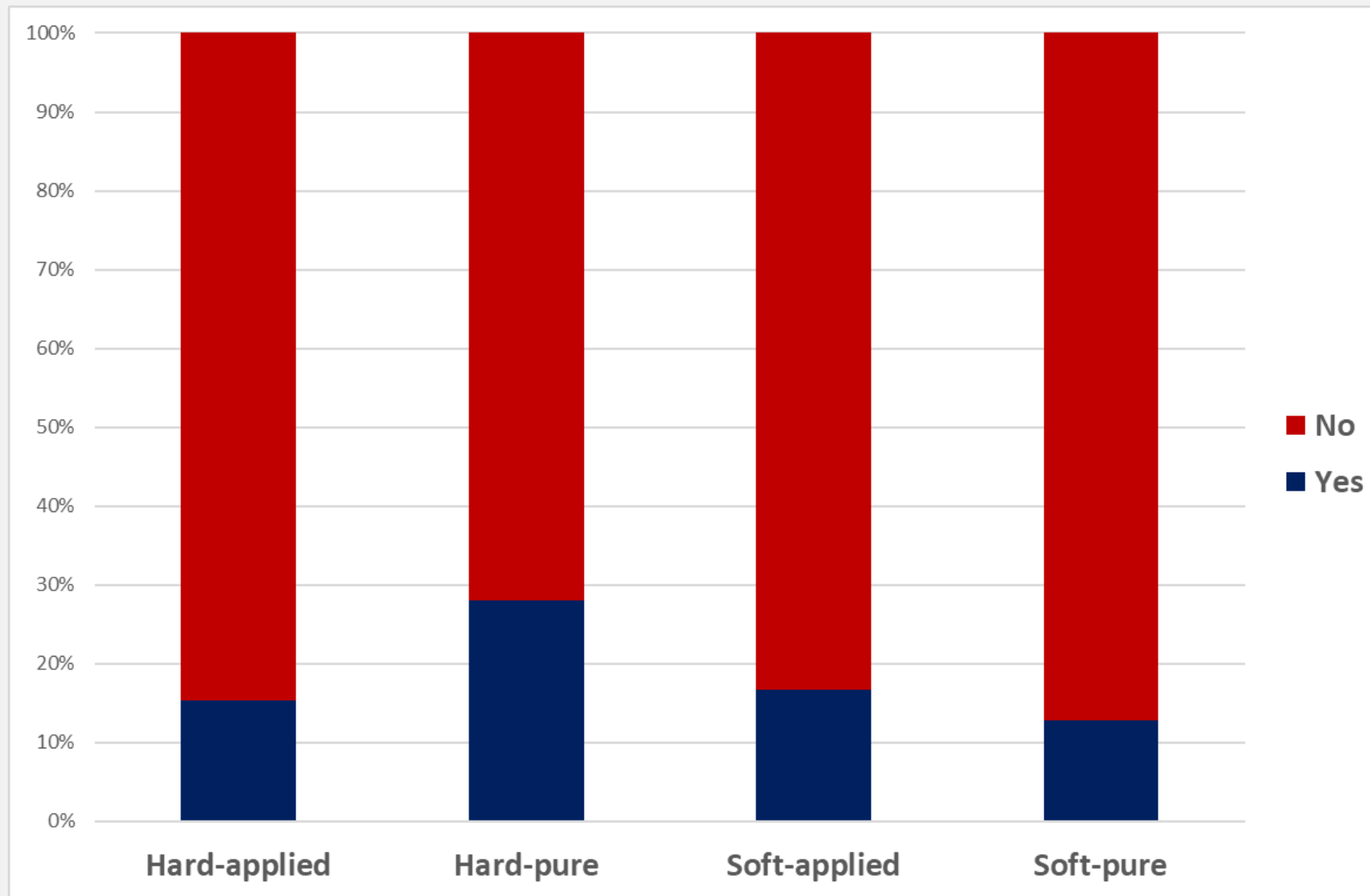




# LOCKDOWN ISSUES



## CHANGED APPROACH TO TEXTBOOKS?



## CHANGED APPROACH TO TEXTBOOKS: HARD-PURE SUBJECTS

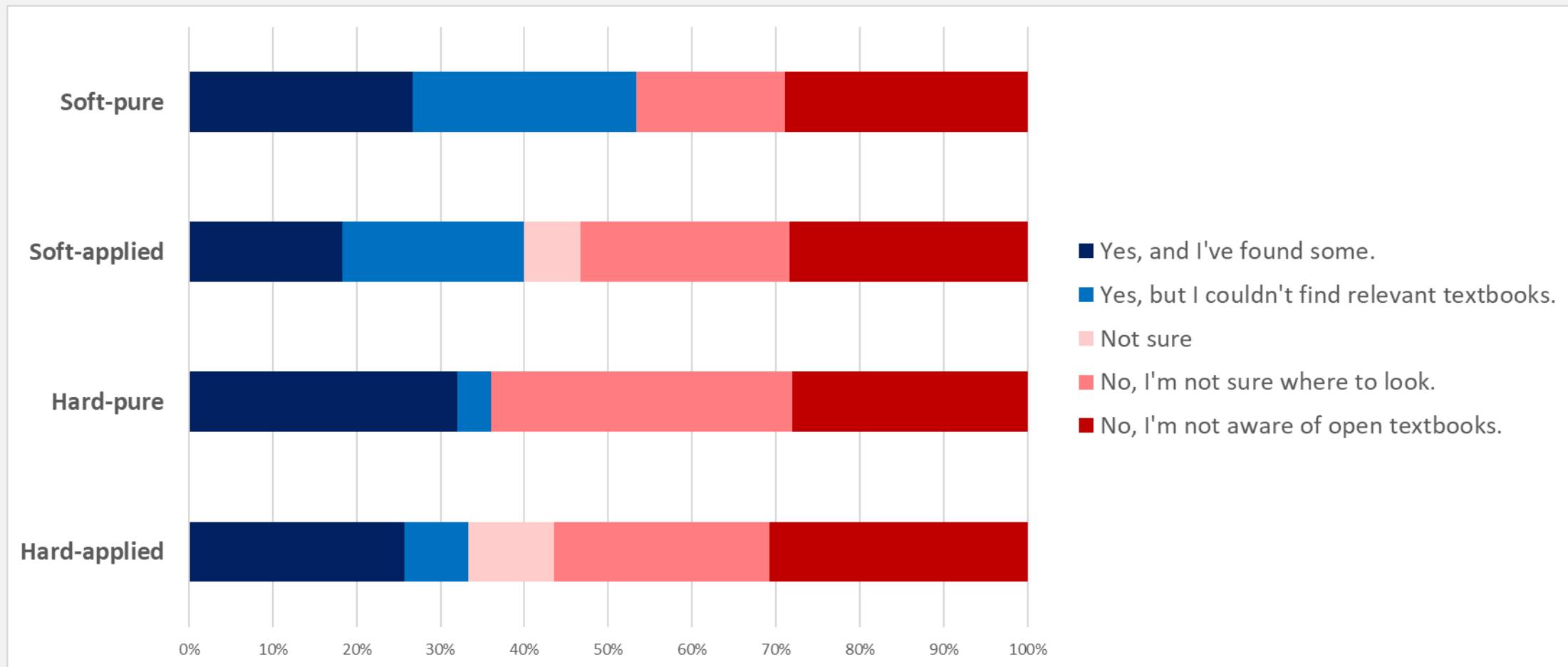
“Consider e-book availability more, and also consider that students should be using the textbook more in the event of online lecturing.”

“I look more at textbooks with cheap or free online versions.”

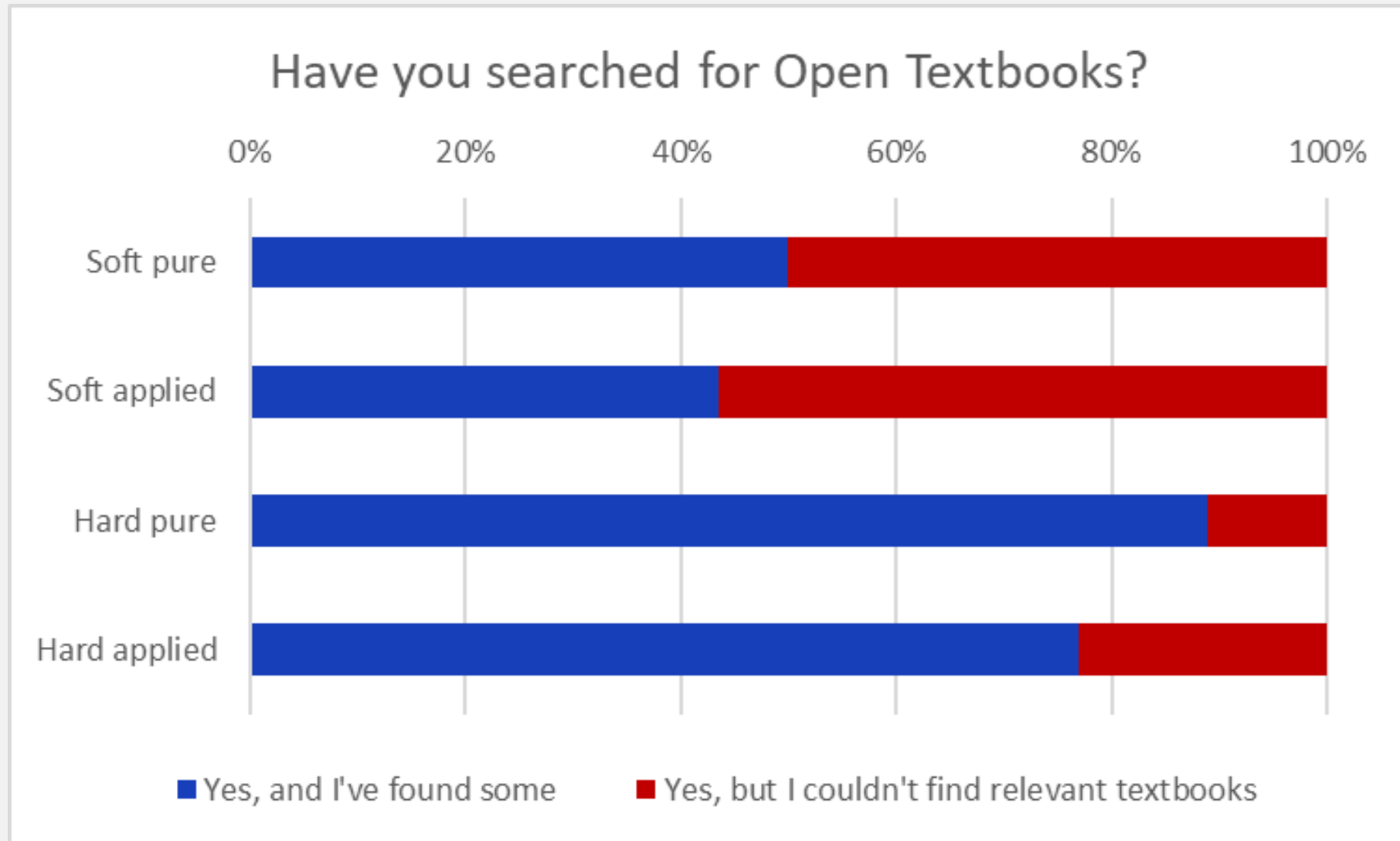
“would very much like to see a rise in the availability of e-books for students to access through libraries - perhaps the library has a set number of licenses and students are able to access”

“More reliant on e-texts and resources due to online learning. More likely to suggest / promote the use of free e-text (and use it within the course design) due to increased cost burdens on students.”

# EXPERIENCE IN SEARCHING FOR OPEN TEXTBOOKS



# OPEN TEXTBOOK EXPERIENCES



# OPEN TEXTBOOK EXPERIENCES

It covers the material I needed, it was competently written with modern topics, it is actively edited by the authors, and it is freely available in the format of students' choosing

None relevant to New Zealand. Many poor quality and lack of involvement from recognised experts

More accessibility benefits students

content on offer either wasn't relevant to our course material, or was too simplistic

## SO WHAT?

- Academics are still using textbooks under the assumptions of the traditional textbook model.
- Academics are unaware that the Library is increasingly struggling to provide equitable back-up access.
  - student inequity
  - threat to library role in textbook support

# THE TEXTBOOK ECOSYSTEM

Tertiary Libraries

Lecturers



Publishers

Students



## HOW HAVE WE APPLIED THESE FINDINGS AT UC?

- Open communication with our community
- Creating guidelines via an e-textbook statement
- Setting boundaries with publishers
- Championing open textbooks

# THE FUTURE IS OPEN



Adopt



Share



Adapt



Collaborate



Create



Ngā mihi ki a koutou!

Richard White (University of Otago, Manager Copyright & Open Access)

Cheryl Brown (University of Canterbury, Associate Professor, CoEHHD)

Zhanni Luo

UC Library

LIANZA 2021 Conference



A. F. Tyson, Sara Roberts, & Lisa Davies

